

protecting American heritage will be sorely missed. From his military service to this great Nation to his public service in the Virginia House of Delegates and his extensive community service, Carrington was a respected civic leader and visionary.

I appreciate the historic value and significance of Cedar Creek and Belle Grove. During my weekly drives through the Valley on my way to D.C. or back home to Roanoke, I am reminded almost every stretch of mile of the historic role the Shenandoah Valley has played during the events of the Civil War. I believe it is important to preserve this battlefield so it will continue to provide a historical lesson and glimpse into our nation's past for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of this measure and yield back the remainder of my time.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1815

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4944, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to designate the Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EDUCATION LAND GRANT CONVEYANCE REVIEW COST ACT

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3802) to amend the Education Land Grant Act to require the Secretary of Agriculture to pay the costs of environmental reviews with respect to conveyances under that Act, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3802

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. COSTS OF REVIEWS FOR CONVEYANCES UNDER EDUCATION LAND GRANT ACT.

Section 202 of the Education Land Grant Act (16 U.S.C. 479a) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(f) COSTS OF REVIEW.—The Secretary shall pay the costs of all action required under section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)) with respect to any conveyance under this section."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN).

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, the bill, H.R. 3802, was introduced by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH), and I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman to explain this legislation.

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Utah for yielding me this time. He has done an outstanding job as chairman of the Committee on Resources and we shall miss him very much in that capacity.

Mr. Speaker, the Education Land Grant Act set up a national mechanism to convey small parcels of U.S. Forest Service land to local educational agencies for the purpose of renovation, expansion, or construction of school facilities. Mr. Speaker, the good news is that this bill was signed into law on December 28 of the year 2000.

Here is where the difficulty has arisen, Mr. Speaker. In implementing this law, Forest Service staff have administratively determined that schools that apply for a conveyance under this act would need to pay various administrative costs, analyses, and environmental compliance assessments. In fact, the interim directive that has now finally been distributed states various costs to be borne by the school districts. I quote: "Nominal costs includes the nominal fee of \$10 per acre conveyed, plus all costs directly associated with the project that the Forest Service may incur to evaluate and process at the school district's request to acquire national Forest Service lands under the Education Land Grant Act, such as costs associated with National Environmental Policy Act compliance, document preparations, surveys, posting of property monuments, markers, or posts, and recordation."

In fact, another memo mentioned that even staff time, even staff time used to process requests will need to be paid by school districts.

Mr. Speaker, here we have an example of bureaucrats trying to reinterpret what was very clear in the law. That is why we come to the floor today with H.R. 3802.

This bill simply requires the Forest Service to bear the cost of environmental assessments and administrative costs associated with an exchange under the Education Land Grant Act. The purpose of the act in the first place was to help those cash-strapped districts to make sure their funds were going to help teachers teach and help children learn. Now we have a situation, through bureaucratic extrapolation, where the unelected are trying to reinterpret the will of the Congress.

So, Mr. Speaker, we come here today to speak unequivocally to say that the Congress makes it very clear. Here are the instruments that will be utilized to help these cash-strapped districts realize the benefits of the Education Land Grant Act, and this legislation is the last step toward making school construction and expansion a reality for many rural schools across our country.

So it is in that spirit, Mr. Speaker, that I urge this House to adopt H.R. 3802.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mrs. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3802 would require the Secretary of Agriculture to pay the costs of environmental reviews conducted pursuant to the Education Land Grant Act. The majority, in the person of the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. HAYWORTH), has very clearly and passionately explained the bill. We have no objection, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3802, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RED ROCK CANYON NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2002

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4141) to authorize the acquisition by exchange of lands for inclusion in the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, Clark County, Nevada, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4141

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area Protection and Enhancement Act of 2002".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act, the following definitions apply:

(1) CORPORATION.—The term "Corporation" means The Howard Hughes Corporation, an affiliate of the Rouse Company, with its principal place of business at 10000 West Charleston Boulevard, Las Vegas, Nevada.

(2) RED ROCK.—The term "Red Rock" means the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, consisting of approximately 195,780 acres of public lands in Clark County, Nevada, specially designated for protection in the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area Establishment Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 460ccc et seq.), as depicted on the Red Rock Map.

(3) RED ROCK MAP.—The term "Red Rock Map" means the map entitled "H.R. 4141—Boundary Modifications", dated July 1, 2002.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 3. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Red Rock is a natural resource of major significance to the people of Nevada and the